

**Table 13.1: Processor and Darkroom Quality Control**

	<b>Test</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Measurements</b>	<b>Tolerance</b>
1.	<b>Sensitometric Testing Evaluation Program (STEP)</b>	P	CDRH Procedure	± 20 % Submit to NEHC
2.	<b>Visual Inspection of Processor</b>	P	Visual	
3.	<b>Darkroom Ventilation</b>	P	Sniff test If excessive, use industrial hygiene services for direct measurement	10 air changes per hour
4.	<b>Darkroom Cleanliness</b>	P	Visual inspection- cleanliness and no miscellaneous storage	No dirt No misc storage
5.	<b>Plumbing and Water Filtration</b>	P	Visual Inspection: drains, filters and hoses	Unobstructed drain, filtered water and easy accessibility
6.	<b>Film Storage</b>	P	Temperature, humidity, location Visual Film Storage	Comfort Vertical Storage of all film
7.	<b>Darkroom Fog Test</b>	P	2 minute exposure of film with step wedge	Change in OD ≤ 0.02 with OD of 1.2 - 14
8.	<b>Light Leaks</b>	P	Visual inspection with all safe lights off	None
9.	<b>Last Safelight Filter Check</b>	P	Records check	≤ 24 months
10.	<b>Appropriate Safelight Use</b>	P	Distance of safelight from working surfaces, bulb strength (Watts), Filter Wavelength	What is appropriate and Manufacturer's recommended
11.	<b>Film Cassettes clean and in good condition</b>	P	Visually inspect 20% of cassettes	No gross deformities
12.	<b>Film Screen Cleanliness</b>	P	Visually inspect 2 cassettes of each size	No dirt or scratches
13.	<b>Screen-film contact test</b>	P	Administrative review of records and films	Every 6 months
14.	<b>Viewbox Cleanliness<sup>1</sup></b>	P	Visual inspection	No obvious marks on viewbox
15.	<b>Viewbox Light Uniformity<sup>1</sup></b>	P	4 quadrants - use mean light meter reading at 1 cm within and among panels in a single electrical unit	if ± 20 %, replace lamps

Abbreviations: P: periodic, OD: optical density, cm: centimeters, cd: candella.

<sup>1</sup>Viewboxes where diagnosis is made, reading rooms, teaching areas and clinical use only.

**Table 13.1: Processor and Darkroom Quality Control continued**

	<b>Test</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Measurements</b>	<b>Tolerance</b>
16.	<b>Viewbox Light Color<sup>1</sup></b>	P	Visual inspection	All should appear nearly the same and light should be nearly white
17.	<b>Viewbox Luminance<sup>1</sup></b>	P	Average of light meter readings at 1 cm	> 1000 nits (cd/m <sup>2</sup> )

Abbreviations: P: periodic, OD: optical density, cm: centimeters, cd: candella

<sup>1</sup>Viewboxes where diagnosis is made, reading rooms, teaching areas and clinical use only.